

INTELLIGENT MANAGEMENT OF INFORMATION IN A NETWORK ENVIRONMENT

ABSTRACT

An information management system handles the organization, distribution, and access of networked information. The system creates a network of linked groups of members, where links established between groups facilitate the network sharing of information maintained on behalf of individual groups. Access rights settings that govern the distribution of networked information are designated for individual members, groups, and/or links between groups. In response to such access rights settings, each piece of information can be managed in an appropriate fashion such that networked information is efficiently distributed to groups and members.